

H. CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A backpack comprising:

a lower compartment that is formed from rigid material having a top wall;

a waist strap that is attached to the lower compartment;

an upper compartment that is formed from rigid material having a bottom wall wherein the top wall of the lower compartment and the bottom wall of the upper compartment have complementary surfaces such that the upper compartment stacks on top of and is removably attached to the bottom compartment and when the compartments are attached, adjacent surfaces of the lower compartment and the upper compartment form generally continuous surfaces of the rigid backpack; and

at least one shoulder strap attached to the upper compartment.

2. The backpack of claim 1, wherein a first surface of the upper compartment and a first surface lower compartment are adjacent and form an ergonomic shaped continuous surface for supporting the backpack against a person's back.

3. The backpack of claim 2, further comprising a pad that is attached to the ergonomic shaped continuous surface.

4. The backpack of claim 1, further comprising an upper door mounted to the upper compartment wherein an inner volume of the upper compartment is accessible through the upper door.

5. The backpack of claim 4, further comprising a container that is attached to the upper door.

6. The backpack of claim 1, further comprising a lower door mounted to the lower compartment wherein an inner volume of the lower compartment is accessible through the lower door.

7. The backpack of claim 1, wherein the upper compartment and at least one attached shoulder strap can be separated from the upper compartment and used as a rigid daypack.

- 145 8. The backpack of claim 1, wherein the lower compartment and the attached waist strap can be
146 separated from the upper compartment and used as a rigid fanny pack.
- 147 9. The backpack of claim 1, wherein the lower compartment is made of metal and the waist strap is
148 removed, and further comprising a flat surface of the top wall that is generally horizontal
149 when the lower compartment is separated from the upper compartment and in an upright
150 position such that the lower compartment can be used for cooking when a heat source is
151 placed inside the lower compartment.
- 152 10. The backpack of claim 1, wherein the lower compartment is formed from at least one layer of
153 material.
- 154 11. The backpack of claim 10, wherein at least one layer of material has an insulating property.
- 155 12. The backpack of claim 10, wherein at least one layer of material is impermeable to fluid and the
156 layer is formed so as to make the lower compartment resistant to the escape of fluid.
- 157 13. The backpack of claim 10, wherein the at least one layer is metal.
- 158 14. The backpack of claim 13, wherein the at least one layer is aluminum.
- 159 15. The backpack of claim 10, wherein the at least one layer is plastic.
- 160 16. The backpack of claim 1, further comprising at least one support element attached to a bottom of
161 the lower compartment
- 162 17. The backpack of claim 1, wherein the upper compartment is formed from at least one layer of
163 material.
- 164 18. The backpack of claim 17, wherein at least one layer of material has an insulating property.
- 165 19. The backpack of claim 17, wherein at least one layer of material is impermeable to fluid and the
166 layer is formed so as to make the upper compartment resistant to the escape of fluid.
- 167 20. The backpack of claim 17, wherein the at least one layer is metal.
- 168 21. The backpack of claim 20, wherein the at least one layer is aluminum.
- 169 22. The backpack of claim 17, wherein the at least one layer is plastic.

170 23. The backpack of claim 1, further comprising at least one cylindrical container holder formed in a
171 top of the upper compartment.

172 24. A backpack comprising:
173 a lower compartment that is formed from rigid material having a wall that forms a top of the
174 lower compartment;
175 a waist strap attached to the lower compartment;
176 an upper compartment that is formed from rigid material and is attached to the bottom
177 compartment such that the wall that forms the top of the lower compartment forms a bottom
178 of the upper compartment, and the adjacent surfaces of the lower compartment and the upper
179 compartment form generally continuous surfaces of the rigid backpack; and
180 at least one shoulder strap attached to the upper compartment.

181 25. The backpack of claim 24, wherein the wall forms a horizontal shelf when the backpack is in an
182 upright position.

183 26. The backpack of claim 24, wherein a first surface of the upper compartment and a first surface
184 lower compartment are adjacent and form an ergonomic shaped continuous surface for
185 supporting the backpack against a person's back.

186 27. The backpack of claim 24, further comprising a pad that is attached to the ergonomic shaped
187 continuous surface.

188 28. The backpack of claim 24, further comprising an upper door mounted to the upper compartment
189 wherein an inner volume of the upper compartment is accessible through the upper door.

190 29. The backpack of claim 28, further comprising a container that is attached to the upper door.

191 30. The backpack of claim 24, further comprising a lower door mounted to the lower compartment
192 wherein an inner volume of the lower compartment is accessible through the lower door.

193 31. The backpack of claim 24, wherein the lower compartment is formed from at least one layer of
194 material.

- 195 32. The backpack of claim 31, wherein at least one layer of material has an insulating property.
- 196 33. The backpack of claim 31, wherein at least one layer of material is impermeable to fluid and the
197 layer is formed so as to make the lower compartment resistant to the escape of fluid.
- 198 34. The backpack of claim 31, wherein the at least one layer is metal.
- 199 35. The backpack of claim 34, wherein the at least one layer is aluminum.
- 200 36. The backpack of claim 31, wherein the at least one layer is plastic.
- 201 37. The backpack of claim 24, further comprising at least one support element attached to a bottom
202 of the lower compartment
- 203 38. The backpack of claim 24, wherein the upper compartment is formed from at least one layer of
204 material.
- 205 39. The backpack of claim 38, wherein at least one layer of material has an insulating property.
- 206 40. The backpack of claim 38, wherein at least one layer of material is impermeable to fluid and the
207 layer is formed so as to make the upper compartment resistant to the escape of fluid.
- 208 41. The backpack of claim 38, wherein the at least one layer is metal.
- 209 42. The backpack of claim 41, wherein the at least one layer is aluminum.
- 210 43. The backpack of claim 38, wherein the at least one layer is plastic.
- 211 44. The backpack of claim 24, further comprising at least one cylindrical container holder formed in
212 a top of the upper compartment.